

DIAGNOSIS OF WEST NILE VIRUS INFECTION IN ANIMALS

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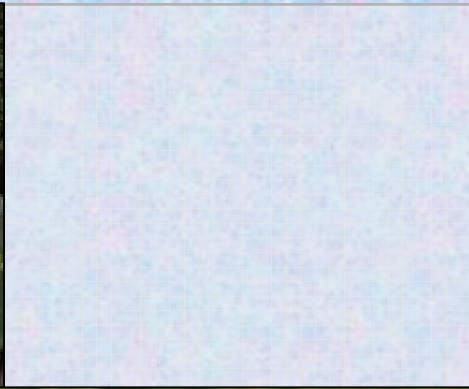
**Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal
Health**

Michigan State University

WNV Surveillance in Dead Corvids



blue jay



Common raven



American crow

Reporting Dead Corvids

- complete the form at www.michigan.gov/westnilevirus/
- if we want to test the bird for WNV, you will be instructed to contact your local health department
- submission kits are available at the LHD and other agencies

DATE OF OBSERVATION: Month Day 2003

LOCATION OF OBSERVATION: (see [notes](#))

Zip Code: Nearest City, Town or Village:
County: Street Address:
Nearest Crossroads:

ANIMAL(S) OBSERVED:

Class: Species: (select only one) If "Unknown," please describe the animal or if "Other," please enter the species:
☒ Bird
☐ Mammal

Number Observed: Current Status:

Symptoms: (check as many as apply)

☐ Eyes crusted ☐ Disoriented ☐ Tremors ☐ Slow Moving ☐ Unable to Fly
☐ Seizures ☐ Eye twitching ☐ Malnourished ☐ Dehydrated ☐ Ruffled Feathers
☐ Other (describe):

COMMENTS:

OBSERVER INFORMATION: (see [notes](#))

Name:
Phone: - - Licensed Rehabilitator or Veterinarian? ☐ No ☐ Yes
E-mail: Michigan Audubon Member? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Submission of Dead Corvids to DCPAH



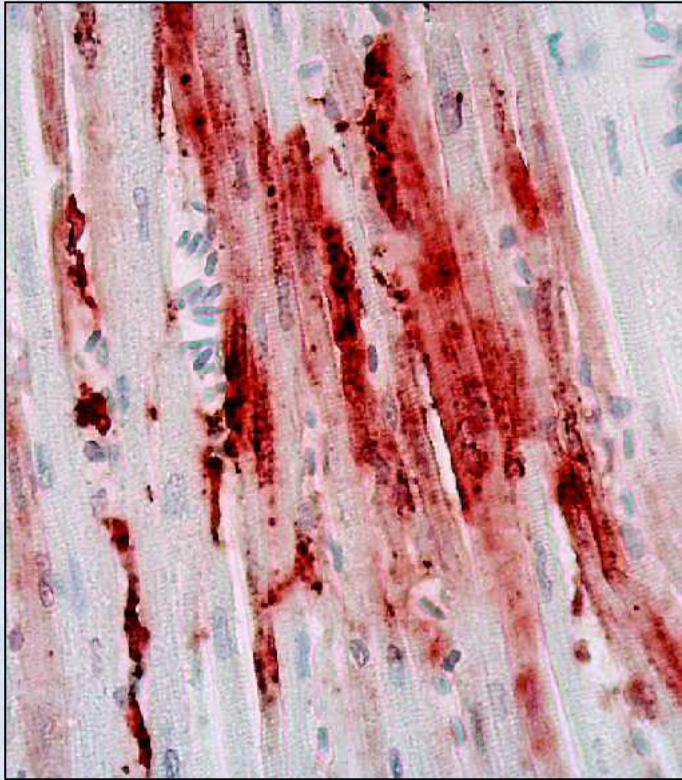
Submission of Dead Corvids to DCPAH

- **birds that appear recently dead, with little evidence of decay (i.e., maggots, noxious odor)**
- **handle birds with disposable rubber/latex gloves**
- **submission kits provided by MDCH to LHDs and other participating agencies**

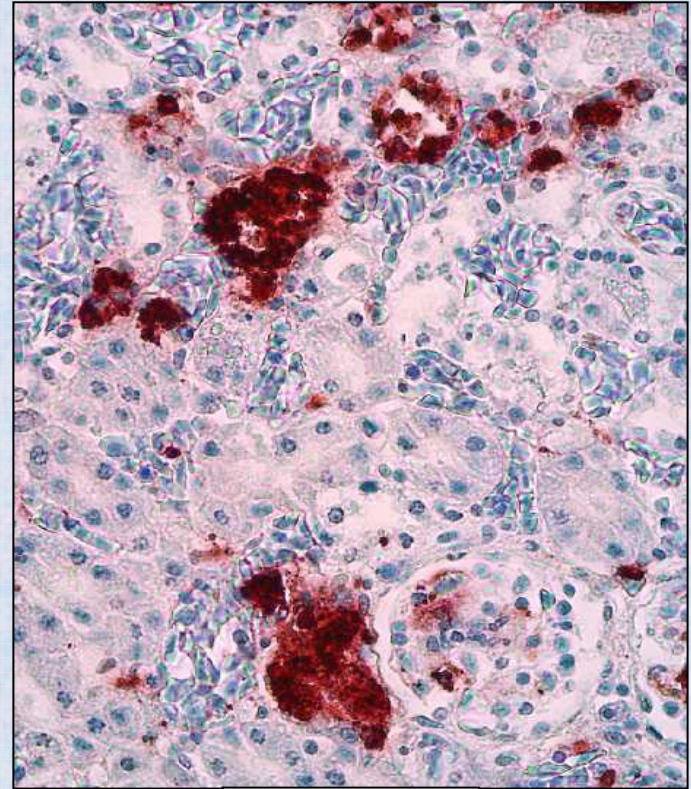
Testing of Dead Corvids at DCPAH

- **collection of heart and kidney tissues**
- **immunohistochemistry (IHC) for WNV antigen**
- **PCR confirmation of IHC-positive birds**
- **testing birds from a given ZIP CODE until one positive bird is confirmed**

Positive IHC Reactions in Corvids

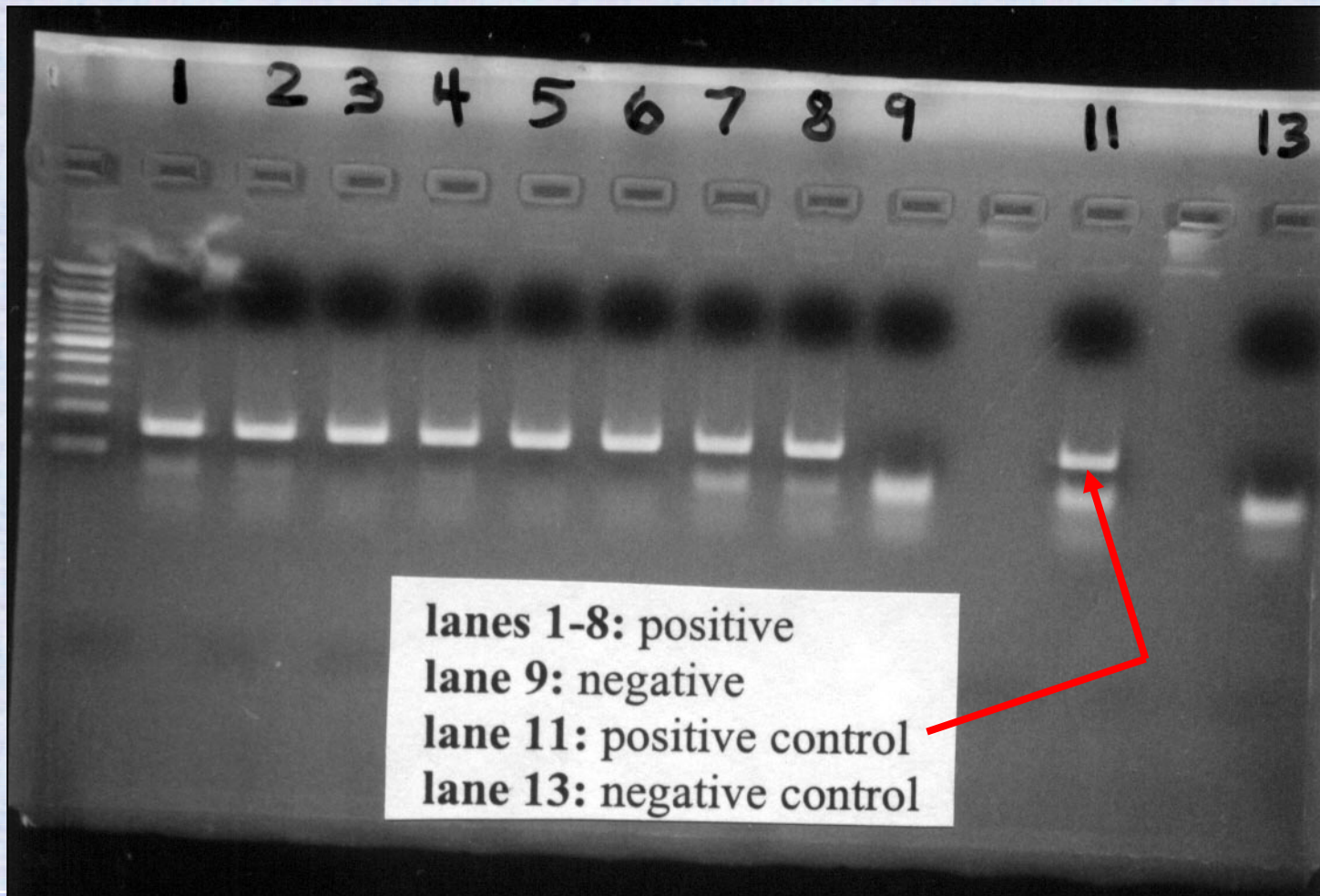


heart



kidney

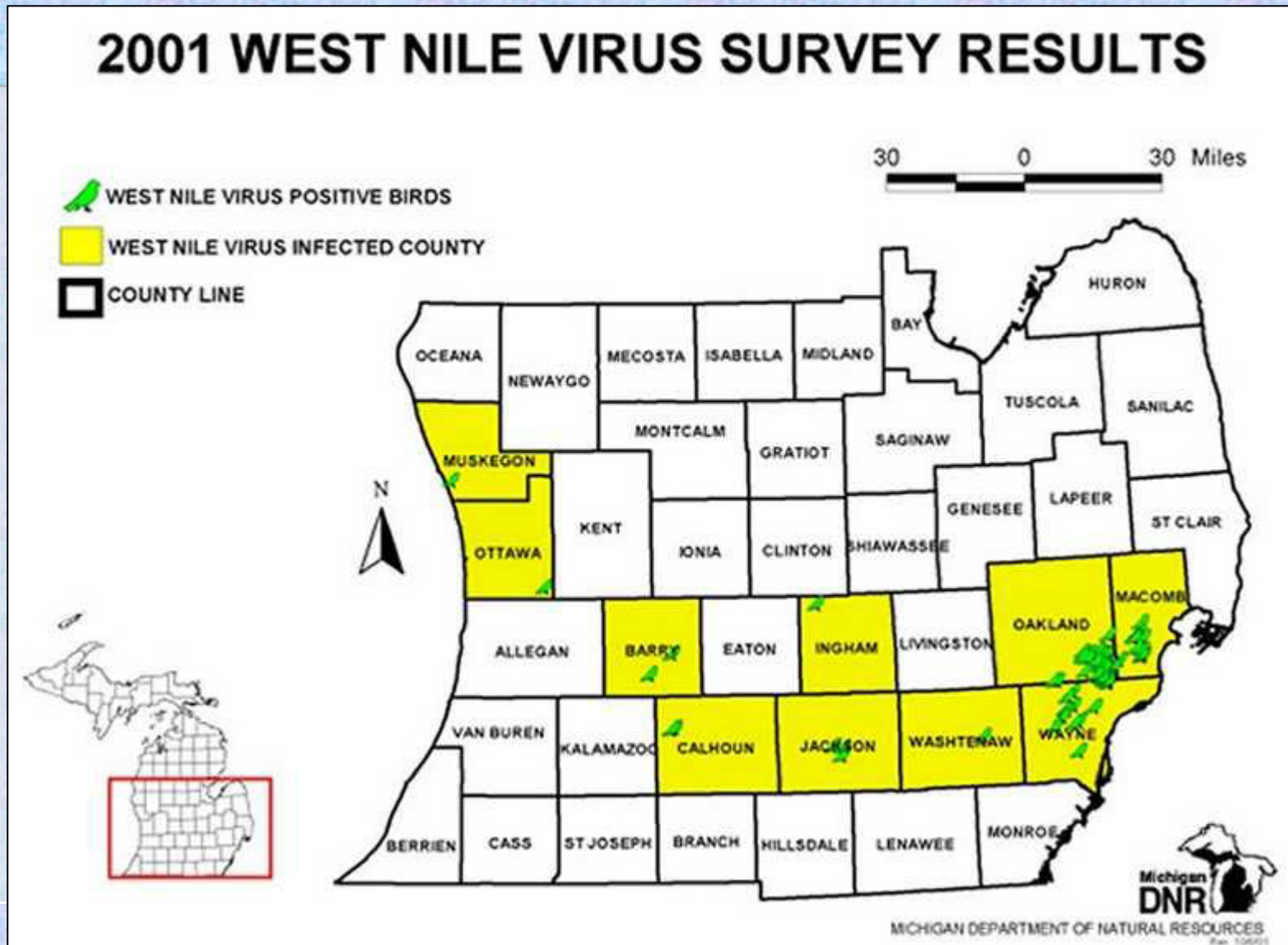
Confirmation of IHC-positive Corvids by RT-PCR



Dead Corvid Data Collection

- **timely updating of data at website**
- **mapping positive birds by zip code**
- **determining dead corvid density (per square mile)**
- **determining changes in dead corvid density over time (weekly)**

Mapping of Positive Birds - 2001



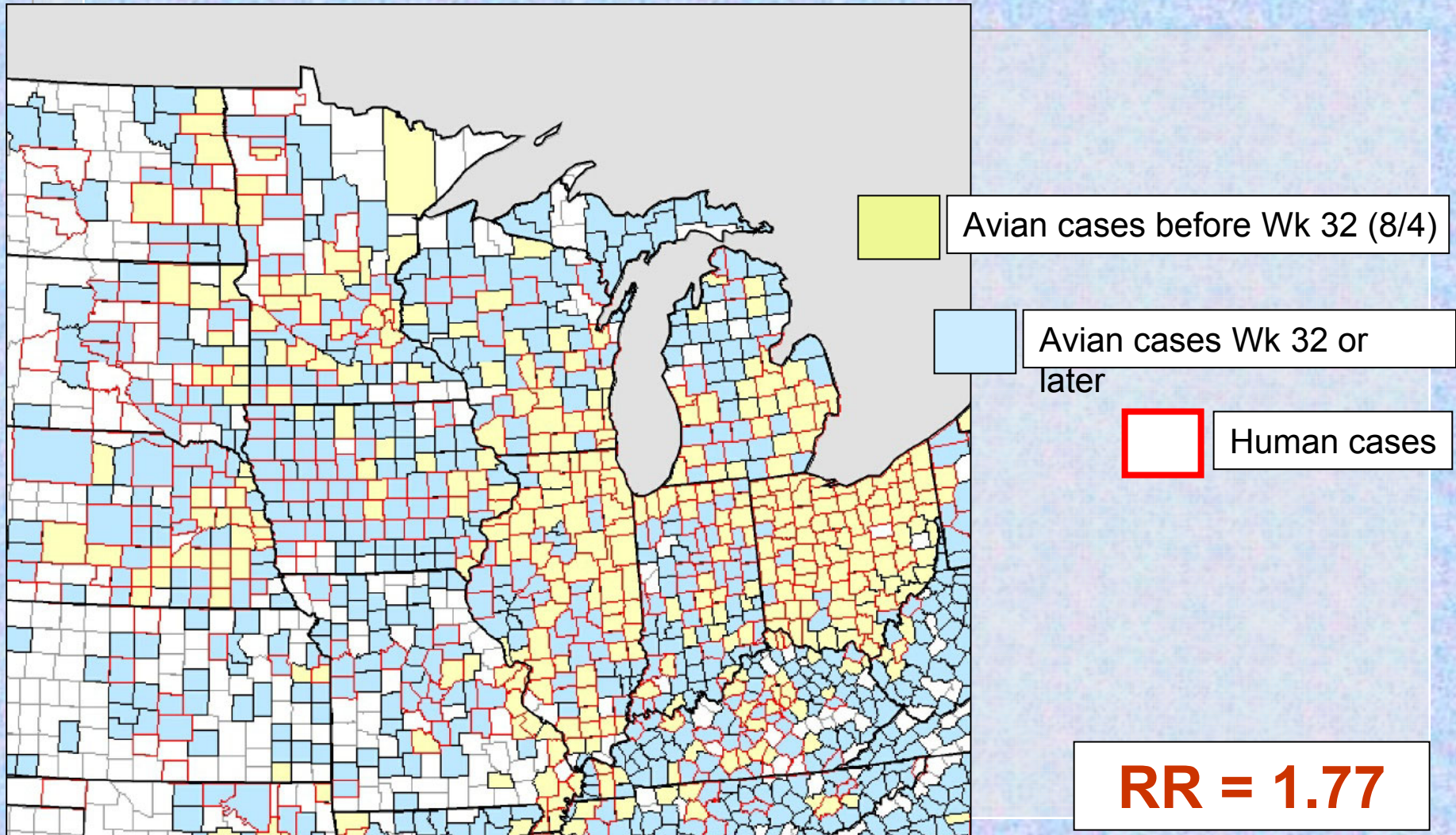
Significance of Dead Corvid Data

- **forecast of human WNV risk**
- **New York study (2000):**
 - **no human cases in counties with low weekly dead crow densities (< 0.1 per square mile)**
 - **occasional human cases within a few weeks after counties reported moderate dead crow densities (0.1-1.5 per square mile)**
 - **outbreak of human cases 2 weeks later in the only county with high dead crow density (>1.5 per square mile)**

Significance of Dead Corvid Data

- **CDC study (2001 and 2002)**
 - **calculated relative risk (RR) of human cases in relation to when the first positive bird case was reported**
 - **The end of week 31 (August 5 or 4) was the pivotal date**
 - **in 2001, $RR = 6.43$**
 - **in 2002, $RR = 2.37$**

Early Avian Deaths Predict Human Illness: North Central U.S., 2002



**submission of serum
and/or CSF to
DCPAH
completion of
“Equine Arbovirus
Encephalitis”
submittal form**

Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal Health			
Logo Here _____	Phone (517) 353-1683	DCPAH Case No. _____	
(see reverse side for mailing addresses)		MSU Vet. Clin. No. _____	
2003 Equine Arbovirus Encephalitis			

DCPAH Account No. _____ Clinic Name _____ Address _____ (city, state, zip) Veterinarian _____ Phone (____) _____ Ext. _____ Cellular Phone (____) _____ Pager (____) _____ E-Mail Address _____	Owner _____ Address _____ (city, state, zip) Day Phone (____) _____ Evening Phone (____) _____ Cellular/Pager (____) _____ FAX (____) _____
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CHECK HERE:
 ☐ ONLY FAX RESULTS (no charge) FAX (____) _____
☐ ONLY HARD COPY RESULTS (no charge)
☐ BOTH FAX AND HARD COPY RESULTS (\$3/TRANSMISSION)

SPECIMEN(S) SUBMITTED

Specimen Type: CSF Blood Brain Date Specimen Taken _____
 circle one

Labs other than DCPAH used for testing _____

HORSE INFORMATION

Animal Name _____ Breed _____ Age ____ (da.wk.mo.yr.) Sex (Male, Gelding, Female)
 &/or Clinic ID _____ circle one circle one

Location Address (if different from owner address) _____
 (city, state, zip)

Name of Premises/Farm _____ Barn Contact _____
 Phone (____) _____ FAX (____) _____

CLINICAL SIGNS AND HISTORY

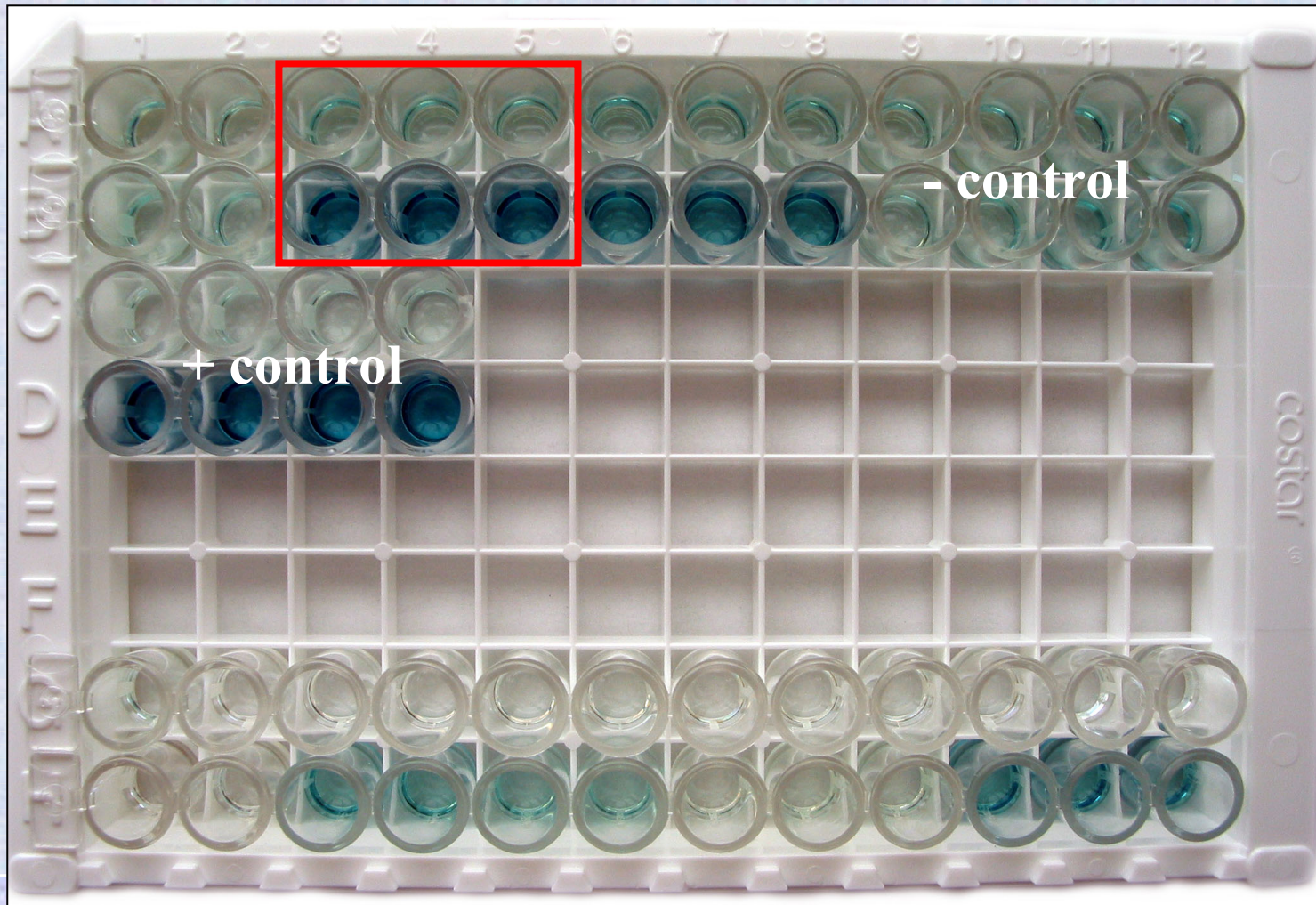
Date of Clinical Sign Onset _____

Clinical Signs (circle): Apprehension Head Shaking Ataxia/Incoordination Weakness of Hind Limbs Cranial Nerve Paralysis Hyperesthesia	Depression Listlessness Lameness Weakness of Front Limbs Anorexia	Fever Muscle/Twitches/Fasciculations Recumbency Aimless Wandering Head Pressing
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Other signs or details on above information: _____

Serologic Diagnosis in Live Equine

Suspects: IgM Capture ELISA



Other Testing of Live Equine Suspects

■ IgG ELISA

- screening test for previous exposure to WNV**
- previously vaccinated or natural exposure**

■ virus neutralization (VN) test

- determines viral neutralizing antibody titer**

WNV Diagnosis in Dead Horses

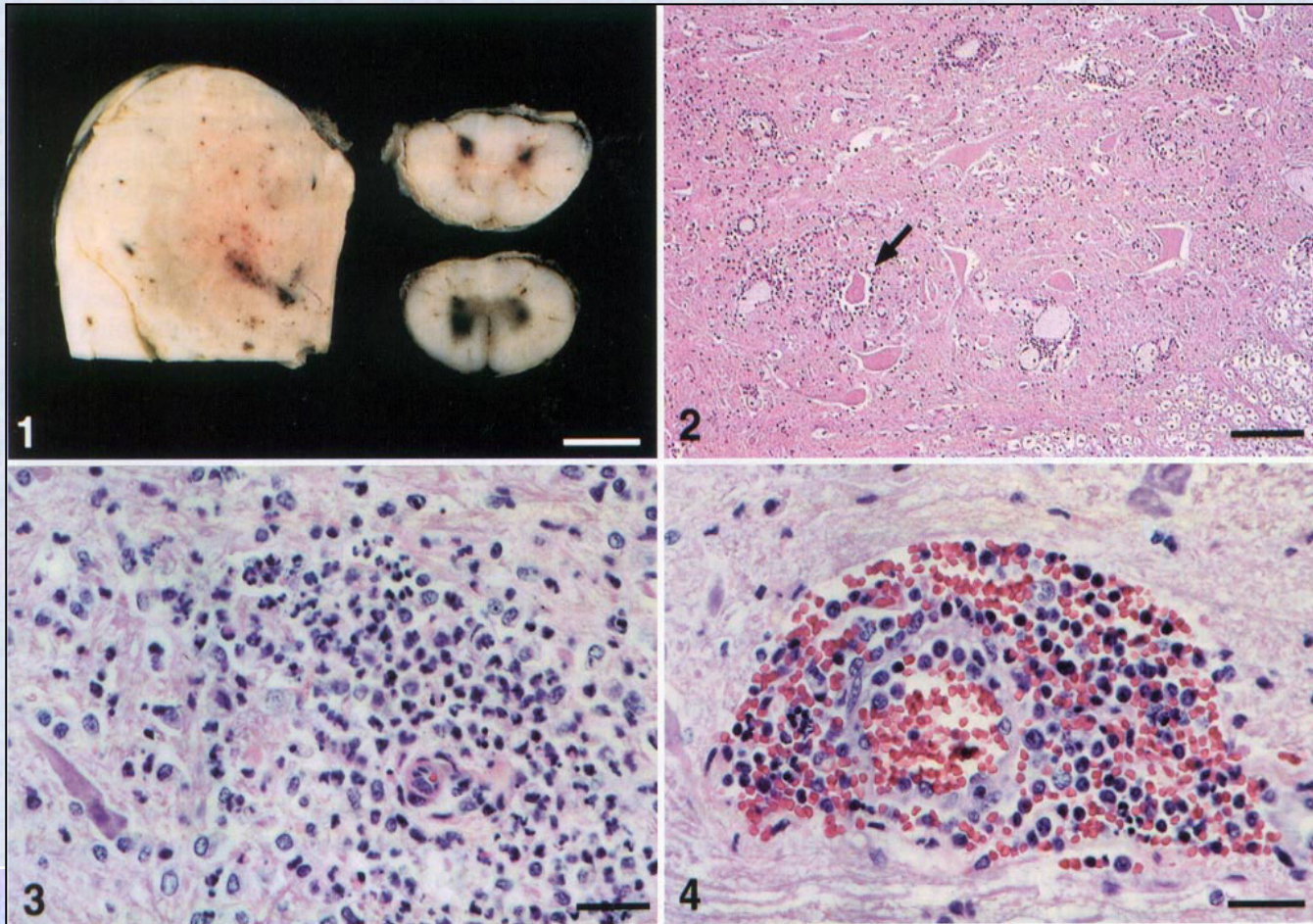
- **submission of heads or whole bodies to DCPAH for necropsy**
- **MDA will arrange for transportation, if necessary**

Testing of Dead Horses

- **gross necropsy**
- **rabies testing at MDCH**
- **CNS histopathology**
- **IgM capture ELISA on CSF**
- **IHC for EEE, but not for WNV**
- **PCR and/or virus isolation**

Pathology of WNV Infection in Horses

- encephalitis and/or myelitis, meningitis

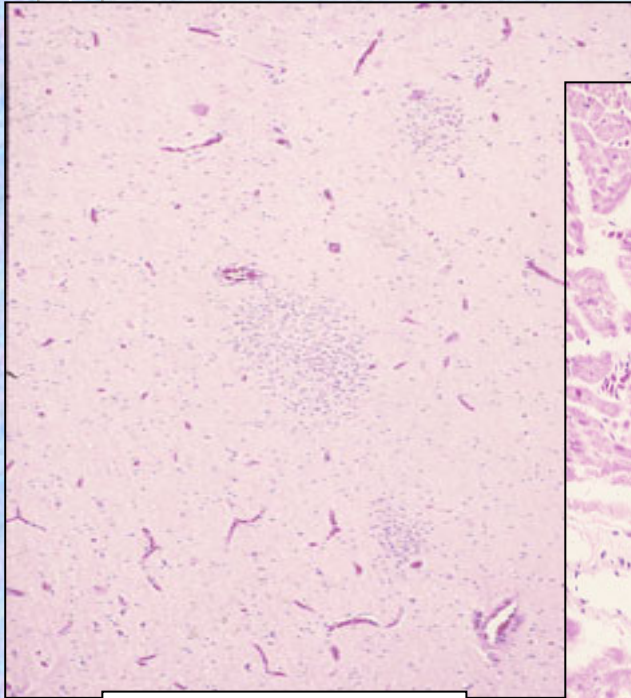


WNV Diagnosis in Dead Non-corvid Birds

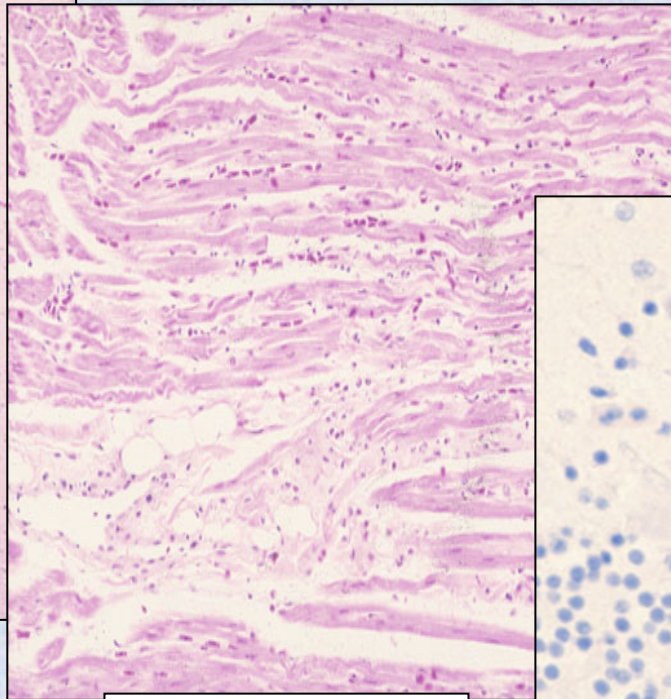
- **gross necropsy**
- **histopathology of all major organs**
- **IHC on heart, kidney, brain**
- **confirmation by PCR**

Histopathologic and IHC Findings in Non-corvid Birds

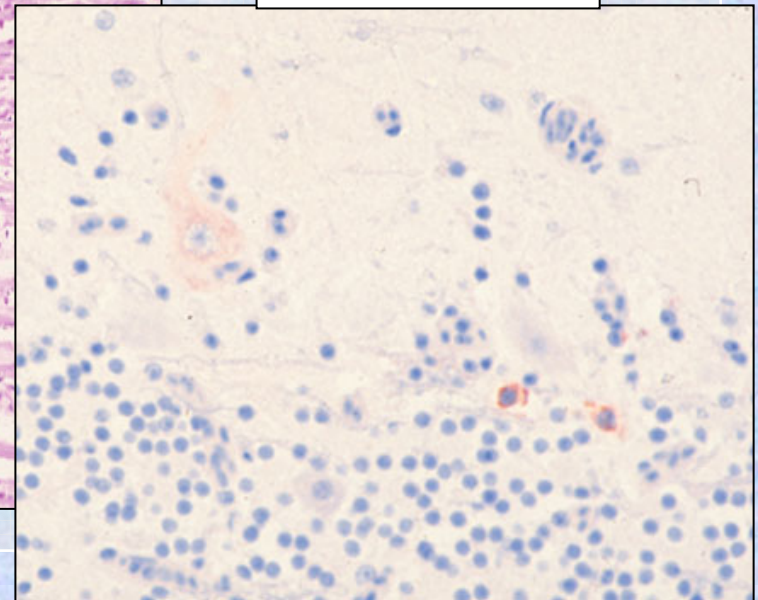
- inflammation and viral antigen in multiple organs



encephalitis



myocarditis



IHC, brain

WNV Infection in Other Animals

- **dogs**
- **cats**
- **rabbits**
- **sheep**
- **alpacas**
- **llamas**
- **donkeys**
- **mules**
- **mountain goats**
- **reindeer**
- **squirrels**
- **chipmunks**
- **skunks**
- **bats**
- **harbor seals**
- **alligators**

WNV Diagnosis in Other Animals

■ live animals:

- IgM capture ELISA for dogs
- IgG ELISA for dogs
- VN test on serum from any species

■ dead animals:

- gross necropsy
- histopathology of all major organs
- IHC on nervous tissue
- confirmation by PCR